

I trust that every citizen will feel that he must perform his part in the great struggle now going on; that prudence and economy will enter into the administration of every department of Government, and that every servant will look well to the welfare of the country.

Let me say in conclusion, that I am here in accordance with the wishes of the people; that I bring with me to the Capitol the kindest feelings towards all good men, having no prejudices against this party or that party, this man or that man. I come here determined, as far as in my power lies, to see that the laws are enforced impartially, and to carry on the State government for the people with honesty and economy.

I enter upon the discharge of my duties free and untrammelled, bound by no pledges, only to a faithful performance of every trust confided in me.

I trust every citizen in this broad land will see the necessity of lending his aid in sustaining the glorious cause in which we are now engaged, that of securing to millions yet unborn the right of self-government.

Let us all stand upon the Constitution that has been adopted by our own people, presenting one unbroken front to tyranny in every shape it may present itself, with the determination never to place our liberties in the keeping of the dastard foe that now seeks to conquer us.

I hope, gentlemen, that our session will prove harmonious, and that your every act will redound to your praise, and the good of our country.

For the present, I have done, at a future day I will take pleasure in giving you my views more in detail.

Ladies, for your attention, I thank you, and from my heart say—God bless you.

Lieutenant Governor John M. Crockett then delivered his inaugural address.<sup>3</sup>

The Senate then returned to their chamber, and Mr. Guinn, President *pro tempore*, introduced the Lieutenant Governor as the presiding officer who delivered the address appropriate to the occasion.<sup>4</sup>

On motion of Mr. Shepard the Senate adjourned until 9½ o'clock A. M. tomorrow.

Friday, November 8, 1861

Senate met pursuant to adjournment. Roll called. Quo-

<sup>3</sup> The Inaugural Address of Lieutenant Governor John M. Crockett cannot be located. The journal manuscript indicates that it was mislaid.

<sup>4</sup> The address of Lieutenant Governor Crockett upon assuming the Chair of President of the Senate cannot be located. The journal manuscript states that it was mislaid.

rum present. The journal of yesterday was read and adopted.

The President announced the following committees:

Judiciary: Messrs. Harcourt, Chairman; Branch, Hartley, Casey, Houston, Mitchell, Wheeler, Darden, Parsons, Guinn, Selman, Jordan, Shelley.

Finance: Messrs. Lea, Chairman; Boyd, Weatherford, Moore, Crawford of Jasper, Hartley, Parsons, Darden, Shepard.

Public Lands: Messrs. Erath, Chairman; Batte, Reed, Finlay, Crawford of Fannin, Cook, Scarborough, Lea, Branch.

Penitentiary: Messrs. Jordan, Chairman; Graham, Burnett, Parsons, Reed.

State Affairs: Messrs. Hartley, Chairman; Shepard, Boyd, Shelley, Lea, Harcourt, Weatherford, Scarborough, Obenchain.

Education: Messrs. Branch, Chairman; Casey, Finlay, Mitchell, Crawford of Jasper.

Confederate Relations: Messrs. Durant, Chairman; Branch, Guinn, Burnett, Lea, Harcourt, Cook, Shelley, Reed.

Internal Improvements: Messrs. Parsons, Chairman; Shelley, Lea, Shepard, Crawford of Fannin, Hartley, Moore, Casey, Graham.

Privileges and Elections: Messrs. Shelley, Chairman; Selman, Durant, Batte, Crawford of Jasper, Obenchain, Erath.

Roads, Bridges and Ferries: Messrs. Boyd, Chairman; Crawford of Fannin, Moore, Shepard, Darden.

Private Land Claims: Messrs. Weatherford, Chairman; Houston, Mitchell, Guinn, Scarborough, Branch, Finlay, Selman, Harcourt.

Counties and County Boundaries: Messrs. Reed, Chairman; Weatherford, Erath, Wheeler, Darden.

Claims and Accounts: Messrs. Guinn, Chairman; Mitchell, Obenchain, Casey, Jordan, Finlay, Moore.

Printing and Contingent Expenses: Messrs. Scarborough, Chairman; Harcourt, Shepard, Durant, Parsons.

Public Debt: Messrs. Mitchell, Chairman; Scarborough, Branch, Shepard, Weatherford, Batte, Guinn.

Militia and Military Affairs: Messrs. Casey, Chairman; Boyd, Darden, Jordan, Finlay, Branch.

Engrossed Bills: Messrs. Crawford of Jasper, Chairman; Casey, Houston.

Enrolled Bills: Messrs. Burnett, Chairman; Selman, Wheeler.



**George B. Erath, District 28**  
**Chairman, Committee on Public Lands**

Photographs from A Memorial  
and Biographical History of  
McLennan, Falls, Bell and Coryell  
Counties, Texas (Chicago: Lewis Publishing  
Company, 1893), 97.

Treasurer's Books: Messrs. Selman, Chairman; Shepard, Scarborough.

General Land Office: Messrs. Shepard, Chairman; Erath, Obenchain, Cook, Moore.

Mr. Weatherford introduced a bill granting lands to citizen soldiers. Read 1st and 2nd time and referred to Committee on Public Lands.

Mr. Boyd introduced a bill making sheriffs collectors of the revenue. Read 1st and 2nd time and referred to Committee on Finance.

Mr. Parsons introduced a bill exempting the property of persons therein named from forced sale during the present war. Read 1st and 2nd times and referred to Judiciary Committee.

Mr. Crawford of Jasper introduced a joint resolution relative to the transaction of business. Read 1st time.

Mr. Guinn offered the following resolution: "**Resolved**, That this Senate will entertain no bill at its present session granting land or money to individuals where the claims originated against the Republic or State of Texas prior to the 1st of June, A. D. 1861, over which the Court of Claims had jurisdiction."

Mr. Erath proposed to amend by inserting in the last line "and have not been presented to said court." Accepted and the resolution adopted.

Mr. Parsons introduced a bill to amend the 110th section of an act to regulate proceedings in the county court pertaining to estates of deceased persons passed March 2, 1848. Read 1st and 2nd times and referred to Judiciary Committee.

Mr. Erath introduced a bill to reduce the price of the public domain. Read 1st and 2nd times and referred to Committee on Public Lands.

Mr. Scarborough introduced a bill in regard to the Statute of Limitations. Read 1st and 2nd time and referred to Judiciary Committee.

The election of Chaplain being the special order of the day was taken up. Messrs. Guinn and Parsons were appointed tellers. Nominations being in order Mr. Weatherford nominated Rev. W. A. Smith; Mr. Parsons, Rev. Henry Thomas; Mr. Scarborough, Rev. J. W. Phillips; Mr. Crawford of Jasper, Rev. R. T. Gibson; Mr. Erath, Rev. W. M. Baker; Mr. Hartley, Rev. Bishop Gregg, and Mr. Erath, Rev. William Thomas. On counting the ballot Mr. Smith received three votes, Mr. [H.?] Thomas three, Mr. Gibson seven, Mr. Phillips one, Mr. Baker five, and Mr. Gregg ten. No one having received a majority of all the votes a 2nd ballot was had. Mr. Scarborough withdrawing the name of

Mr. Phillips, when Mr. Smith received three votes, Mr. H. Gregg seven. There still being no election a third ballot was taken. Mr. H. Thomas and Mr. W. Thomas being withdrawn, when Mr. Smith received three votes, Mr. Gibson nine votes, Mr. Baker eight votes, and Mr. Gregg nine votes. There being no election the Senate proceeded to a fourth ballot, Mr. Gregg's name being withdrawn, when Mr. Smith received eight votes, Mr. Gibson nine, and Mr. Baker twelve. No one candidate having yet received a majority a fifth ballot was taken, Mr. Gibson's name having been withdrawn, when Mr. Smith received eighteen votes and Mr. Baker eleven votes.

Mr. Smith having received a majority of the votes cast was declared duly elected Chaplain of the Senate.

Mr. Erath offered the following resolution: "**Resolved**, That the Judiciary Committee inquire into the expediency of suspending the law of limitations during this war and report by bill or otherwise." Adopted.

Mr. Mitchell introduced a bill to amend the 1st section of an Act to regulate the license and practice of attorneys and counsellors at law. Read 1st and 2nd times and referred to Judiciary Committee.

Mr. Harcourt introduced a bill to reestablish the boundaries of the State of Texas. Read 1st time.

Mr. Parsons offered the following resolution: "**Resolved**: That the Sergeant-at-Arms be and he is hereby authorized and instructed to employ an additional porter for the Senate the compensation for whom shall not exceed one dollar per day." Adopted.

Mr. Guinn offered the following resolution: "**Resolved**, That the Committee on Militia and Military Affairs be and they are hereby requested to inquire into the expediency of so amending the militia law of this State as to effect a thorough and efficient organization of the militia of this State and report by bill or otherwise." Adopted.

On motion of Mr. Moore the Senate adjourned until 10 o'clock A. M. tomorrow.

Saturday, November 9, 1861

Senate met pursuant to adjournment. Prayer by the Chaplain. Roll called. Quorum present.

Mr. Darden asked to be excused from serving on the Judiciary Committee and on motion of Mr. Guinn, Mr. Shepard was added to that committee in his stead.

Mr. Obenchain presented a petition from the citizens of Parker County asking for a special court for criminal purposes. Referred to Judiciary Committee.

Mr. Selman presented the memorial of citizens of Tyler, Smith County, relative to the sale of spirituous liquors,